

DURANT WEEKLY NEWS

OFFICIAL PAPER OF BRYAN COUNTY

VOLUME XX.

DURANT, OKLAHOMA, FRIDAY, AUGUST 11, 1916.

NUMBER THIRTY-TWO

FIFTY YEARS IN BRYAN COUNTY

John P. Davis and Wife Co. Their Golden Wedding Anniversary at Their Home Near Fort Washita Last Wednesday.

Wednesday of this week was celebrated the golden wedding anniversary of John P. Davis and his good wife, Mary Stelzer Davis, at their home near Fort Washita. The guests included in all one hundred persons. Several were Mr. and Mrs. Davis' childhood companions, and in the party there were also eight children and twenty-four grandchildren.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Davis were born in the year 1846, and shortly after moved to what is now Bryan County, having had fifty years continuous residence in this community.

To them have been born eight children, all living and in good health: Rosabelle, who married Bud Colbert, and lives at Kenefick; Janie, who married J. B. Hurt, and lives near Fort Washita; Edgell, who married Ivey Horn, and lives at Ragan, Okla.; Abbie, who married Charley Colbert, and lives at Fort Washita; Ella May, who married John Meador, and lives at Coalgate; Ruby, who married Joe Massey, and lives at Bromide; Hurt, who married Lena Krause, and lives near Fort Washita, and one single daughter, Lizzie, who lives at home. All these children and their children were present at the celebration. The son, Edgell, acquired local fame several years ago by refusing to sit on a grand jury with a negro. He was confined to jail for a short time, but won his point.

Among the guests who were friends of the couple in their young days were, R. W. Douglass of Collins, Texas, who as Mr. Davis' best man accompanied him to his wedding, and when a creek was reached led the groom-to-be down into the creek and there scrubbed and brushed him up for the impending ceremony. There were just two buggies in Collins County that day, and being unable to borrow either, the groom and his best man rode horseback to the wedding. Abbie Stelzer, brother of Mrs. Davis, from Collins; Charles Field and wife of Burk Burnett, Texas; Mrs. W. F. Levy of Collins, Mrs. Davis' sister; Ex-Governor Guy of the Chickasaw Nation, and others.

The reunion was held at the Charley Colbert home and it was his own hand that barbecued the whole beef, whole hog, and fried the chickens that made up the repast. The descendants of the old couple presented them with an elegant Grafonola, which was fittingly presented by Hugh L. Cox with a few well-chosen words. Before the repast was served thanks were returned and papers read by Mrs. Dr. Kay, and two readings given by Miss Willie D. Glenn, of Van Alstyne, Texas.

All of the guests remained for the night on the ground.

CHARGES AGAINST PROFESSOR FAULKNER

Member Normal Faculty, Formerly Acting President, Charged With Activity in Behalf of Corley P. McDarmont.

An echo of the famous McDarmont murder trial was heard this week when Jesse G. Watts of Wagoner, father of the slain boy, preferred charges against former Acting-President Faulkner of the local Normal to the effect that Faulkner had been unduly active in soliciting funds to assist in the defense of McDarmont. State Superintendent Wilson has set August 24th as the date when the State Board of Education will hear the charges.

Watts was in Durant for a few days several weeks ago, and at that time expressed resentment at the fact that McDarmont's former associates should have subscribed to his defense. While in interviews in the public press he ostensibly wanted young McDarmont to have a fair trial, he is nevertheless believed to have desired that McDarmont be prevented from securing able counsel if possible, although this much is hearsay, so far as the News is concerned.

Many school men and women, as well as several hundred other citizens of Durant, subscribed liberally to McDarmont's defense, a local business man having been trustee of the funds thus derived.

The charges against Faulkner come as a surprise locally, and as Mr. Faulkner has not been here since their filing, he has not as yet been given an opportunity to speak for himself.

IN PROBATE COURT

Sitting as Probate Judge yesterday Judge Rappolee heard testimony in the matter of the will of L. M. Mitchell, deceased, J. C. Mitchell, administrator. Additional testimony will be taken at a later date.

GENERAL INTEREST NOTES.

Daylight Robbery — Auto bandits Detroit secured \$37,000 in a bold daylight robbery Friday. They held in another auto in which that sum was being carried to make the payroll of the Burroughs Adding Machine Company.

Railroad Crisis — A crisis in the dispute which has been current between the railroads and the trainmen is expected this week. Trainmen have contending for better pay and eight hours per day, while the railroads say that the trainmen are already the best paid of railroad employees. Hopes are entertained that the dispute may be settled by arbitration.

Snake Bite — A woman at Krebs was picking celery one day last week when a snake thought to have been a copperhead, bit her on the ankle and death ensued in five hours.

Women Harvest Hands — The women of Canada are about to be sent to the harvest fields of Saskatchewan to harvest the wheat crop, because their husbands and brothers and sons have gone to war. W. R. Motherwell, minister of agriculture of Saskatchewan, has issued a call for 20,000 harvest hands, and he says that just to the extent that he fails to get that many men the work will fall on the women.

Six-Cent Nickels — Nickels are now really worth six cents instead of five. The demand for this metal in the manufacture of war munitions has increased its value for the time being. When the world was at peace there was only 1 1/2 cents' worth of nickel in the American five-cent piece.

Cost of Living — The cost of living, after rising steadily since 1907, except in 1911, took a downward trend during 1915. A report by the bureau of labor analyzing retail prices of 25 articles of food shows that relative retail prices during 1915 averaged one per cent lower than in 1914. Meats, lard, and eggs averaged from 1 to 9 per cent lower, while potatoes were 22 per cent lower. Wheat, flour, cornmeal and granulated sugar were higher than in 1914, flour being 20 per cent and sugar 11 per cent higher.

Co-Operative Gardening — A co-operative vegetable shipping association has recently been organized among the growers of Polk county, Arkansas. Members have planted sufficient acreage to red and white kidney beans, limas, tomatoes, blackberries and huckleberries to enable them to ship in carloads. A superintendent will oversee planting and culture; buying of supplies and the marketing will be handled by another officer of the association.

Disabled Soldiers — In order that disabled soldier may be able to earn livelihood after the war, and may not even at present be a burden on the community, the British have instituted vocational schools. Among other things the convalescents are being taught automobile engineering.

Electric Thresher — The newest thing in the harvest fields of Kansas is the electric thresher. The first experiment of the kind in the United States has been in operation to the south of Abilene all week and has attracted much attention from farmers in Central Kansas. A dozen farmers of the Farmington neighborhood formed a co-operative association and bought a 1,500-pound motor and set it on a low truck. This was connected by a one-thousand foot cable with the nearest electric wire along the road. The motor turned a drive wheel and a thirty-foot belt connected it with the separator. The dispensing with engineer and water-hauler the cost of threshing is cut in two.

Submission Majority — The final count gave the question of submitting the liquor question to a vote in Texas, a majority of 1,784. This means that Texas will again vote on abolishing saloons.

Sheriff Killed — The sheriff of Baylor County, Texas, W. L. Ellis, was shot and instantly killed Sunday by Stephen Brown, a negro prisoner. The negro was later rounded up and killed by a posse.

Fake Horse Races — Swindlers, working in and near Davenport, Iowa, have recently taken about \$100,000 from the farmers in that vicinity by means of fake horse races. One man has thus far been arrested.

After Jack Love — J. H. Johnston, Oklahoma City traffic expert, who was beaten for the long term nomination for corporation commissioner by Campbell Russell, has set out after Col. Jack Love, the chairman of the commission, and will run against him.

Cotton Crop — The value of the 1915 American cotton crop is \$765,700,560 for the lint, and \$958,000,000 including the seed, according to figures sent out by the New Orleans Cotton exchange.

REFORM IN THE CITY'S AFFAIRS

No Provision Made in Estimate for Publication of Ordinances. — Expected that Such Publication Will Be Made by Those Most Interested.

One among the several reforms instituted in the city's affairs is the fact that no provision has been made in the estimate for current expenses for the publication of ordinances, which heretofore has taken quite a little sum of money each year. Under the law an ordinance, even though it bear the emergency clause, is not effective until it has been given publicity in at least one issue of some newspaper circulated in the city where the ordinance is passed. Heretofore, city councils have been long on the passage of ordinances covering every conceivable sort of thing, many of them not worth to the city what it cost to have them published. The council now contemplates that persons interested in the passage of any ordinance will themselves defray the expenses of publicity.

This is only one reform. Large sums have been lopped off of many of the estimated sums needed, and other items have been cut off entirely. The salary of one class of city employees has been cut, and other embracing other departments are not improbable. The whole business is the result of the determination of the council to reduce the tax levy, and the effect of the economies practiced are already seen in a marked degree in a lower levy for current city purposes this year.

PREMIUM LIST OF COUNTY FAIR IS BEING PRINTED

The premium list and catalogue for the Bryan County Fair, to be held in Durant September 14, 15 and 16, is now in the hands of the printer and will be ready for distribution in a short time. Every person who is interested in the success of the County Fair, or who intends to exhibit, should write the secretary, A. B. Davis, at Durant, at once for a copy of this catalogue.

Prizes are offered for nearly every article or thing that is grown or raised in the county, and the premiums total around \$2,000.00. This year every premium will be paid in cash, and the money for the premiums is in one of Durant's banks, guaranteeing that everybody will be paid.

The catalogue will be a nice little book and will contain much interesting information about the fair. It will be sent to anyone who will write the secretary, and he will also be glad to furnish any information desired concerning the fair.

The heads, or superintendents of the different departments will be found in the catalogue, and they also will be glad to furnish all possible information to all who will see them or write them.

CIVIL CASES IN DISTRICT COURT

The following civil cases have been filed in the District Court since the 28th of last month:

H. V. Wheeler vs. Theo. Burton et al; debt and foreclosure of mortgage.

Harry Lee Taft, trustee, vs. Ida Matoy et al; debt and foreclosure of mortgage.

T. J. Perkins vs. R. H. Whiteside, Forrest H. Johnson and E. F. Rines; debt and foreclosure of mortgage.

H. F. Hall vs. E. O. Butler et al; debt and foreclosure of mortgage.

Edna Bohnke vs. Charles Bohnke; divorce and alimony.

Julius Hogan et al vs. J. H. Hudson et al; possession and quieting title.

Birdie Seely vs. Geo. W. Seely; divorce and custody of children.

Tatum Johnson and Allen Gilmore vs. J. B. Potts et al; partition of real estate and debt.

Willie Wilds vs. Mrs. Willie Wilds; absolute divorce.

AUTO SMASHUP

A Ford delivery truck and a Ford touring car met in a collision at Second and Main street right after noon Monday, and a rear wheel was torn from the truck, while fender, lights and hood were wrecked on the touring car. Dial Currin of the Downing Grocery Co., was going south on Second Avenue and turned into Main at the time a touring car driven by someone he did not know same rapidly east on Main and struck his truck in the rear just as he turned the corner, swinging the truck half way around and damaging both vehicles as described. No one was injured.

Farm Loan Board — The Federal farm loan board will hold hearings in each State capital commencing August 21st, with a view to dividing the country into districts in which to locate the Federal farm loan banks as provided in the recently enacted farm credits bill.

CITY TAX LEVY MUCH LOWER

Total Levy \$1.81 Per \$100 Valuation As Against \$2.30 Last Year. — The County Levy Also Made By the Excise Board.

The county excise board in session last week fixed Durant's total city tax levy for the current year at \$1.81 per \$100 of assessed valuation, as against a levy of \$2.30 last year, thereby saving to the taxpayers 49c on each one hundred dollars of assessed valuation. The reduction has been made possible only by the practice of the most rigid and exacting economy in municipal matters, and after denying to some of the city department heads things that were almost necessary.

The county levy for all purposes is 60c per \$100 valuation, which is slightly higher than last year. The reason for the increase is very easily seen. One reason is a reduction of half a million dollars in the assessed valuation of the county, and another reason is the levy of 1.4 mills for county road purposes, as against only one-fourth of a mill for the same purpose last year.

As to valuations of the county, personal property shows a decrease of \$750,000 from last year, while real estate shows an increase of \$250,000, in round numbers. The increase in real estate is due, for the most part, to the increased number of Indian allotments sold, thus making them taxable.

RECORD NUMBER OF MARRIAGE LICENSES

Forty Couples Were Licensed to Wed By the Clerk of the County Court Within the Thirty Days Just Past.

The record seems to have been broken in the county court for the issuance of marriage licenses during the past thirty days. Couples licensed wed were as follows:

Duel Russell and Minnie Lee Owens, both of Durant.

Phillips Farrell and Effie Watson, both of Uida.

A. T. Bell of Chicago and Anna Bell-Bedd of Durant.

S. H. Moody and Mrs. Willie Murphy, both of Durant.

Felix Love and Bella Davidson, both of Mead.

Jim Russell and Mrs. Willie Luman, both of Durant.

Jerry Dokapil and Abbie Pecinovsky, both of Caddo.

H. M. Bowers and Clara Lefan, both of Greenville, Texas.

Frank Lewellen and Mrs. Sallie Hogan, both of Waxahachie, Texas.

L. M. Lollar, Jr., and Lois Thornton, both of Durant.

Markos Carlile of Hugo and Lula Booker of Bokchito.

J. J. Fryhaver of Savanna, Okla., and Christina Barnett of Durant.

H. E. Nix and Willie Boyd, both of Caddo.

Lyle D. Utz of Florence, Kansas, and May May Ritchie of Durant.

P. W. Fitts of Atoka and Miss E. P. Gray of Durant.

W. G. Smith and Leona Burks, both of Yarnaby.

Clyde N. Ledford and Delphine Jones, both of Durant.

H. M. Sapp and Lillian Bell Simmons, both of Dallas, Texas.

R. C. McCallib of Durant and Eula Jaques of Boswell.

H. C. Puckett and Vina Huggins, both of Mead.

Dan Armontrout of Kiersey and Eva Casey of Mead.

C. A. Wallace and Cora Gound, both of Durant.

Guy Cooke of Denton and Myrtle Haralson of Durant.

Nickolas L. Arend of Durant and Lena Rauschhuber of Mead.

Jackson Reynolds and May Ashley, both of Mead.

J. M. Nelson of Soper and Mrs. Clara Williams of Halleyville.

Tom Clark and Mrs. Ida Love, both of Colbert.

Will F. Clark and Mrs. Mary Moore, both of Durant.

Ed Lowe and Blanche Mayo, both of Durant.

Tom Chandler and Mrs. Mettie Wright, both of Durant.

J. A. Hix of Yarnaby and Lora Towen of Scipio.

C. E. Bradford and Miss Bessie Edwards, both of Roberta.

Doloman Roberts and Carrie Eva Osborn of Bennington.

G. P. Williams and Ella Lewis, both of Durant.

A. F. McLain and Cora Clampitt, both of Dallas.

L. E. Mitchell and Ethel Albertson, both of Sherman, Texas.

Sam L. Prentice and Eula Jones, both of Caddo.

Arthur Gossett of Kenefick and Mamie Jones of Coleman.

Ed Shirley of Hughes Springs, Texas, and Zora James of Silo.

Wm. E. Hudson of Lawton and Mrs. Julia Brown of Kenefick.

GENERAL NEWS NOTES.

Strike Averted — A strike of National scope on the railroads was averted Wednesday when the railroad officials and the heads of the different railroad employees organizations agreed to settle their differences by arbitration. The trainmen gave in on this point when convinced that public opinion would be against them on a strike.

Taxing Incomes — In an effort to make up the deficit in the Federal treasury, the Senate committee on the income tax recommends a one per cent tax on incomes as low as \$2,000 per year.

Exports Lose — As compared with last year for the same period exports of food stuffs, cotton and oils from the United States show a decrease of \$68,400,000 this year.

Army Bill — The Federal army bill as finally reported to Congress for passage carries appropriations aggregating \$267,597,000, having been trimmed down by \$46,373,447.

Strike Settled — The strike on the surface railway lines in New York City came to an end Monday. One of the chief concessions of the settlement gives to the employees the right to organize, which was the issue the strike leaders say they were determined should be fought to the end.

German Submarine — Every point along the Maine coast was watching sharply Monday for two submarines, believed to be foreign vessels, and possibly the long-expected German merchant submarine, the Bremen, and a consort. The strange vessels were reported four miles off Cross Island, near Machias Bay, and close to Canadian waters by a coast guard lookout.

Child Labor Bill — The United States Senate has passed the child labor bill by a vote of 52 to 12.

Triple Tragedy — The former superintendent of Cotton county, J. E. Malone, and two daughters, were found dead in their beds Tuesday morning. All had been shot to death, and a pistol was found on the floor. Shots were heard by neighbors the night before.

Mediators — The United States will select three mediators, who, with an equal number from Mexico, will treat of the differences between the two countries.

Republicans — The Republican State organization in Oklahoma is preparing for a strenuous campaign in an effort to carry the State for the Republican nominee. They hope to elect several Congressmen as well.

REPUBLICANS MAKE PLAN FOR FALL CAMPAIGN

Will Hold Convention in Oklahoma City in September. — McGraw Announces that Hughes Will Speak There.

A hundred members of the Republican State Committee and candidates met in Oklahoma City Monday and resolved to hold a State convention in Oklahoma City in September, and at this meeting a platform will be framed and arrangements made for the campaign. Resolutions were adopted condemning the Democratic administration in Oklahoma for its failure to send publicity pamphlets to all the voters for the recent election and demanding that the law be complied with in the coming election with reference to the initiated election laws.

A committee will select the date for the State convention and the call will be issued later.

James F. McGraw, National committeeman, made a keynote speech to the committee in which he said that W. R. Wilcox, Republican National Committee Chairman, has promised that Mr. Hughes will speak in Oklahoma in September or October. Leaving out the date of the convention was probably in view of a possibility that the party leader may be in the State in September and the meeting may be at that time.

An address by Dr. W. A. Horton of Durant, for the last ten years a member of the American Colony in Tamaulipas, Mexico, scored the foreign policy of the present Democratic administration.

Dr. Horton has always been a Democrat, he said, but "voted with 'em in the primary last week and told 'em good bye." He told of the Colquitt interview two years ago in regard to the administration at Washington and lauded him as a candidate for the Senate, saying that the issue now before the Democratic voters of Texas is the biggest issue in the United States.

Most of the Republican nominees for State office and for Congress were present and spoke enthusiastically of the defeat of the literacy test and their belief that the time is at hand when many thousands who have been voting the Democratic ticket will cast their votes for the Republican ticket from top to bottom this fall.

NOMINEES FOR STATE OFFICES

Names of Candidates of All Parties Chosen at the Recent Primaries Over the State. — Campbell Russell and Humphrey Win Out.

Following is a list of the nominees selected by the Democratic, Republican and Socialist parties at the primary election held August 1st:

Criminal Court of Appeals — Democrat, Thomas H. Doyle of Perry; Republican, H. M. Gray of Oklahoma City; Socialist, Patrick S. Nagle of Kingfisher.

Supreme Court, Third District — Democrat, Matthew J. Kane of Kingfisher; Republican, undecided; Socialist, W. T. Banks of Okemah.

Supreme Court, Fifth District — Democrat, Charles M. Thacker of Mangum; Republican, Henry J. Stargis of Enid; Socialist W. H. Springfield of Woodward.

Corporation Commissioner (long term) — Democrat, Campbell Russell of Warner; Republican, F. A. Parkinson of Lawton; Socialist, Marion Hughes of Ada.

Corporation Commissioner (short term) — Democrat, W. D. Humphrey of Nowata; Republican, James L. Brown of Oklahoma City; Socialist, W. L. Thurman of Mayesville.

Nominees for Congress are as follows:

First District — Democrat, James S. Davenport of Vinita; Republican, T. A. Chandler of Vinita; Socialist, J. H. Reese of Bartlesville.

Second District — Democrat, W. W. Hastings of Tahlequah; Republican, Henry Ward of Tahlequah; Socialist, J. A. Lewis of Tahlequah.

Third District — Democrat, C. D. Carter of Ardmore; Republican, John Cooke of Hugo; Socialist, H. M. Shelton of Durant.

Fourth District — Democrat, Tom D. McKeown of Ada; Republican, James E. Gresham of Wewoka; Socialist, Allen C. Adams of Lamar.

Fifth District — Democrat, J. B. Thompson of Pauls Valley; Republican, George Dodson of Oklahoma City; Socialist, R. L. Allen of Purcell.

Sixth District — Democrat, Scott Ferris of Lawton; Republican, H. H. Hunkle of Duval; Socialist, O. M. Morris of Duncan.

Seventh District — Democrat, Jim McClintic of Snyder; Republican, T. W. Jones, Jr., of Snyder; Socialist, H. H. Stallard of Snyder.

Eighth District — Democrat, Z. A. Harris of Woodward; Republican, Dick T. Morgan of Woodward; Socialist, Joseph Otti of Cherokee.

MURRAY CONTESTS ELECTION

Congressman W. H. Murray has filed with the county election boards of six counties in the Fourth Congressional District, formal demand for a recount of the ballots cast for Democratic nomination for Congress in the recent primary election where the returns show T. D. McKeown of Ada to have been nominated with a plurality of 259 votes. The date for recount has been set for August 9th in Pontotoc County. The other counties will be counted at early dates. The counties contested are Pontotoc, Seminole, Hughes, Okfuskee, Creek, and Coal.

Mr. Murray has given formal notice to the State election board of his demand for recount and forbade issuance of a certificate of election to McKeown. The board, in the absence of legal process from a court, will probably issue the certificate on the face of the returns.

In the course of a statement regarding the matter, Mr. Murray said: "I do not wish to be understood as charging the election officers generally with being unfair. The work was done by the counters, and the other election officers were either obliged to accept their statements or recount the ballots."

"In Pontotoc county, Judge McKeown's home county, my information is that 125 votes actually cast for Smith were counted for McKeown, and more than 200 votes cast for me were also counted for him, and that many other votes were marked mutilated which properly should have been counted for me. In the Francis box alone sixteen ballots of this character were thrown out solely because they were marked with a pencil, instead of a stencil. This, they had no right to do, for the courts have rightly held that a ballot cast by a legal voter whose intentions can fairly be ascertained should be counted, whether he marks it with a stencil or pencil."

"In Okfuskee County one entire box was not counted for the alleged reason that the returns had not been certified to, when it was the duty of the county election board to have sent for the election officers to make the returns. In this same box two years ago the returns were made giving one of my opponents forty-eight votes and me two votes, when the ballots cast showed forty-eight for me and two for him."